For Immediate Release: Tuesday, July 12, 2005

Schwarzenegger Administration Official Holds Roundtable Discussion with Local Leaders on the Environment and Governor's Budget

Contact: Jon Myers 916-324-9670

Bakersfield – California Environmental Protection Agency Assistant Secretary Jon Myers, held a roundtable discussion today with local leaders on the Governor's environmental budget. The group included elected officials and members of the community and met at the offices of the Kern County Farm Bureau.

"Californians can be proud they have a Governor who has made protecting the environment a top priority," said Cal/EPA Assistant Secretary Jon Myers. "Governor Schwarzenegger is leading California and the nation in environmental management policy."

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger last month announced greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reduction targets for California at the United Nations World Environment Day in San Francisco. The Governor signed an Executive Order which establishes GHG targets and charges the California Environmental Protection Agency secretary with the coordination of the oversight of efforts to achieve them, once again demonstrating his commitment to the environment.

"The Governor's budget again places priorities on environmental issues that are important to California," said Assistant Secretary Myers. "His environmental initiatives, such as the One Million Solar Roofs Program, his Ocean Protection Plan and providing permanent funding for the Carl Moyer Program, show his dedication to clean air, clean water and clean land while sustaining a healthy economy."

Building on the Administration's commitment to reducing air pollution and ensuring the state meets air quality standards, the Governor placed first-time, permanent funding of \$88.5 million (Special Funds) for the Carl Moyer Program. The Carl Moyer Program provides incentive grants to reduce emissions from heavy-duty diesel-powered vehicles and equipment. These grants assist projects that reduce emissions from on-road vehicles, agricultural pumps, forklifts, off-road equipment, marine vessels, and locomotives.

###